



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release UPON RECEIPT

NEW ORLEANS FISHERY MARKET NEWS OFFICE ISSUES FIRST MONTHLY REPORT

Inauguration by the New Orleans Fishery Market News office of the Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of the Interior, of a monthly summary of the daily reports on fish and shellfish landings at Gulf ports was announced today. The information contained in the new report is compiled from figures supplied to the New Orleans office by Service field agents.

During January, a total of 24,543 barrels of shrimp was landed at the principal production points in Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, and Texas. Of this total, 10,843 barrels were used for canning and the remainder--13,700 barrels--was either frozen or used fresh.

The oyster harvest for January amounted to 171,527 barrels, of which 142,069 barrels were utilized for canning and the remainder of 29,458 barrels was sold fresh.

Oysters are listed in State barrels of the respective States, capacities of which are: Alabama and Mississippi, 8,478.6 cubic inches; Louisiana, 6,445.4 cubic inches; and Texas, 8,100.0 cubic inches. Shrimp, according to the summary, are listed with heads on in 210-lb. barrels, the equivalent of 125 pounds with heads off.

Additional fishery products landed included hard crabs (248,290 pounds); crab meat (13,950 pounds); other shellfish (including frogs, turtles, and sea turtles) 4,320 pounds. Salt-water fish landings, including croaker, black drum, red drum (redfish), flounder, garfish, grouper, king whiting (ground mullet), mullet, spotted sea trout, sheepshead, and red snapper, amounted to 316,740 pounds. Fresh-water fish landings (including buffalofish, catfish, and gaspergou) totaled 74,870 pounds.